

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, PORG, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW), TH

SUBJECT:LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO PRIME MINISTER
KRIANGSAK

1. PLEASE DELIVER TO PRIME MINISTER TEXT OF FOLLOWING
LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG. BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I DEEPLY REGRET THAT MATTERS OF IMMEDIATE RESPONSIBILITY
AND CONCERN AT THE UNITED NATIONS PREVENTED ME FROM
TRAVELLING TO BANGKOK TO ATTEND THE 34TH ESCAP SESSION.
I WAS VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU AND
VISITING THAILAND.

AS YOU KNOW, I PLANNED TO VISIT THE THAI/UNITED NATIONS
CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECT IN NORTHERN THAILAND. I PLACE
GREAT IMPORTANCE ON THE WORK THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AND THE
UNITED NATIONS HAVE BEEN DOING IN NORTHERN THAILAND. IT
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IS IN THE INTERESTS OF THAILAND, THE UNITED STATES AND
ALL OTHER COUNTRIES AFFLICTED WITH THE DISEASE OF DRUG
ADDICTION TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE THE
ILLICIT CULTIVATION OF THE OPIUM POPPY. THE CROP SUBSTI-
TUTION PROJECT, THEREFORE, DESERVES HIGHEST PRIORITY.

(PARAGRAPH)I ALSO PLANNED TO VISIT THE NONG KHAI REFUGEE

CAMP. THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROBLEM IS AN IMPORTANT ONE FOR BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. THAILAND'S HUMANITARIAN TREATMENT OF 100,000 REFUGEES NOW IN THAILAND IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AND APPLAUDED. THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO CONTINUE ASSISTING THAILAND AND THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES IN RECEIVING REFUGEES FOR RESETTLEMENT AND IN ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO ASSIST. IT IS ESSENTIAL, HOWEVER, THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT ALSO CONTINUE ITS HUMANITARIAN POLICY OF ACCEPTING REFUGEES AND NEITHER RETURNING THEM BACK TO LAOS OR CAMBODIA NOR FORCING VIETNAMESE BOATS BACK TO SEA. ONLY THROUGH YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING RECOGNITION OF THE PLIGHT OF THESE REFUGEES AND THE CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF ALL CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS CAN A LONG TERM SOLUTION TO THIS TRAGIC PROBLEM BE FOUND.

I HOPE THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT THAILAND SOMETIME IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE AND THAT WE CAN THEN DISCUSS THESE AND OTHER ISSUES. I AM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON HOW THE UNITED STATES CAN CONTRIBUTE MOST EFFECTIVELY TO PEACE AND PROGRESS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

SINCERELY, ANDREW YOUNG, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS. END TEXT.

2. SIGNED ORIGINAL WILL BE POUCHED TO EMBASSY. VANCE
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NNN

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